

2 February 1971

GLC



Thank you for your letter of 19 January 1971 expressing concern about allegations with respect to possible Central Intelligence Agency activities in Red China.

As you may know, the Central Intelligence Agency does not comment on allegations which are made in the press and elsewhere with regard to its activities. I can appreciate your concern, but I can assure you that the Agency is the subject of detailed oversight both in the Executive Branch and in the Congress. In addition to the supervision which it receives directly from the President and the National Security Council, CIA is responsive to the supervision of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and its budget receives detailed attention from the Office of Management and Budget (formerly the Bureau of the Budget).

In the Congress, Subcommittees of the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees in the House and Senate keep themselves informed with regard to the Agency. The CIA budget is carefully reviewed by special Subcommittees of the two Appropriations Committees.

Although public disclosure of CIA's activities may not be possible, I think you should be assured by the fact that it is subject to this close scrutiny and operates under the direction and control of those elected and appointed officials who are entrusted with the policymaking responsibilities of our Government.

On the assumption that you would be interested in the mission of the Agency and the statutory authority under which it operates, I am enclosing for your interest a pamphlet on the Agency.

I appreciate your writing to me concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Enclosure